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embodying decisions of courts of last resort and rendered since the publication of the eighth edition, are cited.

Many subjects of increasing importance have been made the subjects of original paragraphs, among such subjects being "Covenants of Lessor and Lessee," "Mining Leases," "Railways and Receivers as Lessors and Lessees." All new matter appearing in the text is bracketed. The index has been carefully revised and the necessary changes made to it.

This careful revision, embodying not only in the notes and indices but also in the text, where their relative importance demands it, the recent developments of the law, seems destined to retain this work in the place it has held for fifty years, as the most authoritative American treatise upon this subject. E. T. B.

*The Mirrour of Justices.* By Andrew Horne. Translated by W. H., Esq., of Gray's Inn, with an introduction by William C. Robinson, LL.D., Whiteford Professor of Law in the Catholic University of America. (Legal Classic Series.) John Byrne & Co., Washington, D. C. 1903. Sheep, pp. 337.

While some authorities attack the value of the *Mirrour of Justices* as a correct exposition of the law, there are many of great note to be found in its support. The prevailing opinion upholds its merits and its substantial accuracy; in any case, it is unquestionably of great historical interest. Written during the reign of Edward I., it was intended to be, at the same time, a defense of the law from those who accused it of being an instrument of injustice, and an arraignment of the many abuses, which, creeping into its administration, had earned for it those accusations. The former object is sought through a clear statement of the laws, past and present; the latter through an enumeration of some hundreds of specific instances of their incorrect application. Dr. Robinson has given us in his introduction a brief summary of the facts known with regard to the author, and of the varying estimates which have been placed upon his work. C. C. R.

*Commentaries on the Law of Master and Servant.* By C. B. Labatt, of the San Francisco Bar. Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y. 1904. 2 vols., (published). Sheep, pp. 2639.

The published volumes of this work relate only to the subject of employer's liability. In view of the great progress of industrial society in the past three or four decades, it is eminently a subject of the highest present-day importance to the legal world and one which has given rise to much discussion and, perhaps, almost hopeless conflict. The completeness of this work certainly cannot be questioned; if the author has erred, it is on the side of prolixity. Its great length and wealth of minute discussion will hardly recommend it as a text-book for what is at best but an important sub-

division of a great department of the law. And yet it cannot fail to be of value to both the student and the practitioner as a most complete and careful commentary of its kind. The work in itself is worthy of great praise; it is written in clear and convincing English, and is decidedly exhaustive, citing, as the preface sets forth, "every reported decision on the subject wherever the common law prevails." The author criticises with much force and an equal degree of justice, both the fellow-servant rule and the doctrine that a servant may not recover for injuries suffered by reason of the abnormal risks of his employment, as being inequitable. The work's value is greatly enhanced by the fact that the date of the cases cited is given throughout—a thing of very minor importance, perhaps, yet which adds much to the convenience of the student. The remaining volume of the work, which is to be published, will treat of hiring and discharge, compensation, strikes, etc. R. H. S.

*Banks and Banking.* Volume I of *Case Law and Index*. By Howard Ellis. Case Law Company, New York. 1903. Cases, sheep, pp. 1432; Index, cloth, pp. 207.

The rapidity with which legal precedents are piling up one upon another is frequently adverted to. It is frightening enough to the student about to begin his course in law to enter some law library and, gazing about him on rows and rows of sheep-bound volumes, to be told that this represents but a small portion of the law, and that here in this mass he is to hunt down legal principles hidden away, perhaps, in some dust covered tome centuries old. He may see some busy practitioner hurrying about with his arms full of books with the glow of excitement written on his face as out of breath after the mad chase he has found a case in point, and this he may see change into gloom as the searcher finds that after all his hours of work it is not exactly the case needed. If these precedents seem confusing and voluminous to-day, how reckoning from this present state of affairs will they be a few years from now? Hon. John F. Dillon said before the American Bar Association in 1886: "We find in the English and American law an already unwieldy mass of reports. In twenty years they will number ten thousand volumes; in fifty years, twenty thousand volumes." The present increase in the reports verify this prediction. In the United States we are adding two hundred volumes per annum to our stock, and the increase is approaching a geometrical ratio. The present condition is thus vividly described by Mr. Charles F. Beach: "It reduces common law research and practice to a mere fishing about in pools of muddy water for stray bits of law suspected of being immersed or in solution therein—the pools growing larger and deeper and muddier, and the fishing becoming more difficult and unsatisfactory *die in diem*." To many this means that less regard will have to be paid to precedents, or else our substantive law must be codified in analogy to the *Code Napoleon* and the *Corpus Juris Civilis* of